

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/103 W

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R 181537Z JUN 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 171

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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PASS STR

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT

SUBJ: MTN: WALKER CONVERSATIONS ON MTN TIMING

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR WALKER HELD INITIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH HEADS OF SEVERAL KEY MTN DELEGATIONS CONCERNING PACE OF MTN. VIEWS RANGED FROM ENTHUSIASM FOR EARLY RESULTS TO SKEPTICISM OVER WHAT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED SEPARATELY. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN SERIES OF INFORMAL SESSIONS,I HAVE MET WITH MOST OF THE MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MTN IN ORDER TO GET A SENSE OF THE DIRECTION AND TIMING OF THE NEXT STEPS IN THE MTN.

3. MACIEL (BRAZIL) EXPRESSED ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CONCEPT OF EARLY RESULTS, EXPECIALLY IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. VEGA (PHILIPPINES) WAS EVEN MORE EMPHATIC THAT THE ONLY WAY TO DEFUSE THE POLITICAL CONFRONTATION THAT CHARACTERIZED SUCH FORA SUCH AS THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER CONFERENCE WAS TO MAKE CONCRETE PROGRESS IN GENEVA ON ISSUES OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE FELT THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE RESTRICTED TO TROPICAL PRODUCTS BUT SHOULD BE GIVEN ATTENTION IN ALL OF THE CURRENT GATT NEGOTIATING BODIES.

4. LUYTEN (EC) RESTATED FAIRLY BLUNTLY THE COMMISSION'S RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE EARLY HARVEST CONCEPT. HE FELT THAT TO DECLARE IN ADVANCE A GOAL OF SPECIFIC RESULTS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED AT A SPECIFIC TIME RISKED FAILURE IN THE EVENT THE TARGETS WERE NOT MET. MOREOVER, HTIS APPROACH WOULD BE LIKELY TO PRODUCE A NEGOTIATION WITHIN A NEGOTIATION, THAT IS, SQUABBLING OVER THE ISSUE OF WHICH ARE PRIORITY ITEMS RATHER THAN NEGOTIATING ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS. HOWEVER, HE FELT THAT IT WAS QUITE POSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT RESULTS OF INDIVIDUAL ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN A SERIES AS THEY WERE READY, BUT WITHOUT PRIOR COMMITMENTS TO DOING SO ON ANY PARTICULAR ISSUES. LUYTEN STILL FELT THAT ONE COULD NOT ASSESS UNTIL FALL WHAT ELEMENTS OF PACKAGES MIGHT BE RIPENING AND THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO MAKE PREDICTIONS NOW. HE STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE EC THAT THE STANDARDS CODE WAS SELF-CONTAINED AND BALANCED IN TERMS OF LEVELS OF COMMITMENT BEFORE IT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED SEPARATELY. HE DID NOT FEEL THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE BECUASE EC COULD BIND MEMBER STATES BUT USG COULD ONLY USE BEST EFFORT WITH RESPECT TO STATE COMPLIANCE.

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5. DUNKEL (SWITZERLAND) FELT THAT CONCRETE RESULTS COULD BE REACHED IN STAGES. HE FELT THAT TROPICAL PRODUCTS, AGREEMENT ON A TARIFF FORMULA, AND THE WORK ON STANDARDS COULD BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF TE YEAR. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN, HOWEVER, AOBUT THE UNITED STATES DOMESTIC PRE-NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES AND RAISED QUESTIONS AS TO THE CAPACITY OF STR, BECAUSE OF THE PROCEDURES, TO DEMONSTRATE THE POLITICAL WILL NECESSARY FOR MAJOR

TRADE LIBERALIZATION.

6. MAX MOORE-WILTON (AUSTRALIA) EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY FOR AUSTRALIA OF ACHIEVING AGRICULTURAL CONCESSIONS IF AN EARLY HARVEST WERE TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIS COUNTRY. HE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF SUFFICIENT AGREEMENT SOON. GEORGE WARICK-SMITH CITED THE PHYSICAL LIMITS OF SMALL DELEGATIONS AS ONE DIFFICULTY IN INCREASING THE MOMENTUM OF THE MTN, AND THE PROBLEMS OF OBTAINING PERCEIVED BALANCE AND RECIPROCITY IN SMALL AGREEMENTS, BUT HE FELT THERE WAS MUCH TO BE SAID FOR EARLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

7. GREY (CANADA), WHILE NOT OPPOSING EARLY RESULTS, CLEARLY FAVORED DEDICATION TO AN EARLY CLOSING DATE (HIS PREFERENCE WAS JULY 1, 1977) FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT WOULD BE AGREED UPON AT LEAST TACITLY AND MOST EFFORTS WOULD BE FOCUSED UPON THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE WRAP-UP OF THE ROUND BY THAT TIME. HE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT REACHING AGREEMENT ON WHAT PACKAGES WERE BALANCED ENOUGH AS TO MERIT EARLY AGREEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION. HE AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO MOVE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT INTO THE MTN.

8. TSURUMI (JAPAN) STATED QUITE BLUNTLY THAT JAPAN DID NOT FAVOR AN EARLY HARVEST AND EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE IMPACT OF CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS UPON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

9. MARTINEZ (ARGENTINA) URGED EARLY AGREEMENT ON DIFFERENTIATED AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LDC'S. HE WAS CHALLENGED BY BOTH TSURUMI AND TOMIC (YUGOSLAVIA) WHO COUNTERED, "DIFFERENT FROM WHAT?". BOTH FELT IT PREFERRED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABLE TO PROCEED PRAGMATICALLY ON CONCRETE ISSUES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR LDC'S AS NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED.

10. THERE WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT EARLY RESULTS (DURING 1976) SHOULD NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR MAJOR TRADE LIBERALIZATION IN THE TOKYO ROUND AND THE TIMING OF SOME ELEMENTS, SUCH AS A MAJOR TARIFF PACKAGE, WOULD BE DEPENDENT UPON GENERAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY.
WALKER

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